

17 DEBRA REED: Good evening. [I'm the Executive |  
18 Director of the Las Vegas Indian Center. I'm Shoshone,  
19 Paiute, and Ute. First, let me thank the Las Vegas Paiute  
20 Nation and the Moapa Paiute Nation for welcoming us all  
21 into their homelands. I appreciate the opportunity to  
22 speak today on a very important issue.

23 I do not speak for a specific tribal nation  
24 but, rather, for all American Indians who reside in the  
25 Las Vegas Valley area. Yucca Mountain is a very serious  
1 concern for all of us. As the first and original  
2 peoples living in this area, we are not merely residents  
3 of this land, we are stewards of the land.] . . . Continued

2 4 [This land is an integral part of our lives,  
5 interconnected with our culture, our spirit, and our  
6 history. I come here tonight to ask the U.S. Department  
7 of Energy a question. What's the big rush? Scientists  
8 have said that spent fuel can be safely stored on site  
9 at reactors for over 100 years. 100 years ago, we  
10 didn't even have power plants. The Internet, space  
11 shuttles, we didn't have television, microwave,  
12 cellphones, iPods, or BlackBerries.

13 We've made great advances in technologies over  
14 the past 100 years. Why not give science a chance to  
15 develop better and safer ways to dispose of the nuclear  
16 industry's waste products rather than dump it all at  
17 Yucca Mountain? It's inconceivable that in the next 100  
18 years scientists can't come up with a better solution  
19 than Yucca Mountain.

20 I'm asking you to consider redirecting the  
21 enormous budget earmarked for the repository into  
22 research and technology advances that will protect the  
23 land for all of us, protect the land from pollution that  
24 will forever change Yucca Mountain and the great state  
25 of Nevada.]

1 [Currently, 104 nuclear reactors operate with  
2 the combined generating capacity of about 100,000  
3 megawatts. That provides about 20 percent of this  
4 country's electricity. Yet that 20 percent -- yet that  
5 20 percent also generates a highly radioactive byproduct  
6 that has the potential to destroy an area that is the  
7 ancestral lands of the Shoshone and Paiute Nations.]

8 [The Draft Rail EIS still includes the Mina  
9 Rail Corridor as an alternative. However, the  
10 Walker River Paiute Tribe has refused permission for the  
11 Department of Energy to use any portion of its  
12 reservation for the purpose of building a railroad to  
13 Yucca Mountain. Therefore, why is this route being  
14 considered as even a non-preferred alternative?

15 It is imperative that the tribes' interests  
16 and voice be heard and respected. It seems obvious that  
17 this route should have already been excluded from the  
18 EIS.] [In your Draft Supplemental EIS document,

19 Section 332, the following words are printed: "DOE is  
20 committed to continuing its consultation process  
21 throughout the development of the Rail Alignment EIS and  
22 plans to continue consultation with the American Indians  
23 to ensure that tribal concerns and perspectives are

... 1  
continued

3

4

24 considered."

25           In this regard, I respectfully request to you  
1 that you host numerous regional meetings with local  
2 tribal nations and native peoples, because they are the  
3 key stakeholders that must be afforded convenient and  
4 frequent opportunities to express opinions regarding  
5 Yucca Mountain and the waste site dumping ground  
6 project.

7           Each and every one of us in this room know the  
8 importance and the complexities of a project of this  
9 magnitude, and it is far too important to make a hasty  
10 decision without input from all individuals that may be  
11 impacted. The potential impact will undoubtedly have  
12 significant consequences for generations to come.

13           To paraphrase a great chief, Chief Seattle, we  
14 are all interconnected like strands of a web. What we  
15 do to one another impacts everything, and that impact  
16 will have a significant, possibly deadly impact on all.]  
17 Thank you for your time.